

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Mr. DiStefano, Superintendent

Hello BDFam! Spring is in the air, or at least it was this winter. All kidding aside, the promise of spring is here and it should prove to be a wonderful time of year. In this edition of our newsletter, we celebrate community partnerships and careers. The very fabric of a public school is based on partnerships and relationships within our community. When our community came together in 1842 to publicly fund the education of youth in our area, I am sure they couldn't imagine what we have before us today. As we stand, our district is actively engaged in more formal partnerships with various businesses and entities than we have ever been before. These partnerships are not just about making sure that our students have the best opportunities possible, many of these partnerships benefit entire families, provide reciprocal benefits to employers and businesses in the region and provide an overall benefit to the economy and quality of life in our community. Most successful communities have been able to demonstrate very clearly that excellent partnership with schools reflect an investment in the community that creates a great value for all. Additionally, as you dive through this month's edition, I would also encourage you to consider the fact that as one of the larger employers in our region, the very careers we have in and amongst our district provide key opportunities for citizens and there are opportunities that span a wide-range of talents and skill sets. Hundreds of our staff call Beaver Dam their home and we are always excited to welcome additional staff that reside within our wonderful community. If you or someone you know cares deeply about doing great things for students and has an interest in working with our district, please get in touch with us.

Finally, as you are aware, our district has been engaged with our community regarding upcoming facilities planning efforts in our district. There is no doubt that we have many very real needs throughout our district. In the spirit of partnerships, we humbly request your partnership with us by taking the survey and encouraging your neighbors to do the same. Go Beavers!

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

DISTRICT FACILITIES COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Board of Education invites all community members to participate in the district's upcoming community-wide facilities planning survey regarding Beaver Dam Middle School, Washington Elementary School, and District-wide Improvements. The survey is a vital part of gathering feedback from taxpayers to inform the School Board's ongoing facility planning. District residents will receive a survey in the mail in early April to provide input regarding district facility needs.

We embrace the relationships we have and work to nurture partnerships to benefit students, staff, families, and the communities in and around Beaver Dam. In this spirit, we thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Please visit <https://bit.ly/3LXH0Vr> to stay informed.

SCHOOL OF THE MONTH

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Fun Facts:

- Built in 1964
- Student Enrollment: 190
- The original Lincoln Elementary School was built in 1911 located on Lincoln Ave. and University Ave. as an additional grammar school. The "new" school was built in 1964 at 210 Gould Street. Note: There is no drivable access from Gould Street to the school.

Board Coffee Chat - Lincoln Elementary School April 4, 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Drop-in for some casual conversation with members of the Board of Education and Mark DiStefano, Superintendent

BOARD MEETING RECAP

At the March Board of Education meeting the board approved the following items:

- Start Now College Requests
- Donation Acceptance
- 2025-2026 School Year Calendar
- Fine Arts Month Proclamation
- Appointment of Board of Canvassers for April 2024 Election

Monthly Board Business Meetings can be viewed LIVE on the district [YouTube channel](#) (Beaver Dam Unified School District). In addition to LIVE access, you may also view previously recorded meetings and other district events on our YouTube channel.



Lincoln Elementary School celebrated Dr. Seuss by having a Cat in the Hat Day.

DISTRICT STRATEGIC ACTION (DSA) OF THE MONTH

District Strategic Actions (DSAs) are developed annually to address holistic district needs that support objectives of the Strategic Plan. DSAs include a direct correlation between actions and a strategic metric impact/target. DSAs support School Success Plans and extend districtwide.

DSA: Partner with students and other stakeholders (local law enforcement and emergency personnel) to strengthen safety measures by leveraging their own personal expertise and experiences.

This connects to our 5-Year objectives by assessing necessity, condition, and use of district properties to determine and enact a sustainable plan. Nurturing the social, emotional, physical and mental health of all students.

For more information about the District's Strategic Plan, please visit <http://bit.ly/2Rqv5x0>.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

BUSINESS SERVICES

Mr. Cashman, Director of Business Services

The business of running a school intersects with various career opportunities that contribute to the overall development of students and support the district's educational mission. Part of these opportunities include school and community partnerships that are vital for fostering collaboration and enhancing educational experiences.

Enhanced Learning Opportunities for Students: Partnerships with local businesses and community organizations provide students with access to real-world experiences and resources that supplement classroom learning.

Resource Sharing and Funding Opportunities: Partnerships with businesses and community groups often involve resource sharing and funding opportunities. Businesses may donate equipment, technology, or supplies to schools, while community organizations may provide grants or sponsorships for educational initiatives. These resources supplement school budgets and enable the implementation of innovative programs that enrich the learning environment.

Workforce Development and Talent Pipeline: Businesses benefit from partnerships with schools by having the opportunity to shape the future workforce and identify potential talent early on. Engaging with students through internships, mentorship programs, and career exploration activities allows businesses to cultivate a skilled and diverse talent pool that meets their future workforce needs.

Overall, school-business-community partnerships are mutually beneficial relationships that enrich educational experiences, strengthen communities, and prepare students for success in an increasingly interconnected and dynamic world. We are grateful for our partnerships with local businesses and organizations who support and provide our students with numerous opportunities.

FACILITIES & SAFETY

Mr. Marshall, Facilities & Safety Officer

Now that Spring has arrived, so does the potential for severe weather. Tornado and Severe Weather Week in Wisconsin is April 8-12. There will be a state-wide tornado drill on April 11 at 1:45 pm and 6:45 pm. If there is a threat of severe weather on April 11, the drill will be April 12. Please take this time to practice your tornado and severe weather sheltering plans. Each of our schools practice tornado drills as part of the district's safety drills protocols.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Dr. White, Director of Human Resources

Our district has a wide-range of wonderful career opportunities for those who want to share their talents with the students and families in our community.

As one of the larger employers in the area, we are fortunate to employ over 450 staff who provide services in a variety of areas. While our awesome teachers comprise the greatest number of our professional staff, there are many excellent opportunities for support staff. These opportunities include clerical, custodial, maintenance, teaching assistant, drivers, and more. Check out our current openings at <https://bit.ly/36fpil9>. Hiring picks up swiftly in the spring and we try to have all positions filled by the end of summer so our students are able to start the upcoming school year with a full team of excellent staff.

STUDENT SERVICES

Ms. Sponholz, Director of Student Services

Select high school students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) will attend the Youth Transition Conference at UW-Oshkosh this month. This event offers a platform for students with disabilities to delve into crucial topics like college and career prospects, health and wellness, and access to community resources. Parents of high school students with an IEP who are interested in attending can contact their child's case manager for more details.

We are excited to facilitate collaborations with the Department of Workforce Development (DVR) to empower students with disabilities. This partnership opens doors for job shadowing opportunities and on-the-job training, paving the way for a successful transition into the workforce. To explore the possibility of these invaluable resources, parents may request for their child's case manager to invite a DVR representative to their next IEP meeting.

Loaves and Fishes is a beacon of generosity in our community. This remarkable organization offers a weekly hot meal to anyone, regardless of income levels. Meals are served every Tuesday from 4:00 PM-5:30 PM at First Lutheran Church, 311 W. Mackie St., Beaver Dam. Individuals can drive-up or walk-in. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Loaves and Fishes for their unwavering support and for alleviating food insecurity for many of our students and families.

TEACHING & LEARNING

Mr. Meyer, Director of Teaching and Learning

The Beaver Dam Unified School District takes pride in what our community has to offer! In that spirit, we

have and continue to develop many partnerships that benefit our students and the community. One way to do this is by ensuring our students know about local careers and employment opportunities. Our efforts include:

- In partnership with the Beaver Dam Chamber of Commerce, planned curriculum ties that expose students to local employers and career opportunities;
- In partnership with local employers, offering our high school students Youth Apprenticeship opportunities; and
- Ensuring that each student has the opportunity to take coursework related to their field(s) of interest through high school elective, technical college, university, and Advanced Placement courses.

SHOUT OUTS

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MONTH

April is Occupational Therapy Month. We are so thankful for our caring and compassionate therapists Alissa Ehlert, Olivia Dzedzic, and Keith Ritsche.

SCHOOL LIBRARIAN APPRECIATION DAY

School Librarian Appreciation Day is April 4. Huge THANKS to our amazing School Librarians Jen Vinz (HS/MS), Estrella Martinez (HS), Terri Wood (MS), Jenny Pufahl (JE), Roxie Miller (LI), Jaclyn Wolter (PV), Beth Nill (WA), and Genna Clark (WI).

NATIONAL ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL WEEK

APRIL 1-5 is National Assistant Principal Week. THANK YOU to our outstanding Associate Principals John Casper (HS), Ryan Gerber (HS), Chad Whalley (MS), Katelyn Dwyer (PV), and Celina Alvin (JE). We also want to recognize our awesome Dean of Students Jami Dugan (MS) and Abby Schmitt (HS).

PARAPROFESSIONAL APPRECIATION DAY

Paraprofessional Appreciation Day is April 3. We are so fortunate to have a great group of dedicated Paraprofessionals who support our students and teachers.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION WEEK

April 21-27 is National Volunteer Recognition Week. A huge SHOUT OUT to our many volunteers who generously give their time and talents to make a difference in so many lives.

NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY

National Administrative Professionals Day is April 24. Our Administrative Professionals are the best and we appreciate them for all they do each day.

Calendar of Events

Visit bdusd.org for the most current listing of events and activities

April 1

- No School-Inservice

April 4

- 8:00 am-9:00 am: School of the Month Coffee Chat (*Lincoln Elementary School*)
- 6:00 pm: Middle School Fine Arts Night & Choir Concert (*Middle School Auditorium*)

April 8

- 6:30 pm: Monthly Board of Education Meeting (*Educational Service Center*)

April 11-13

- 7:30 pm: High School Spring Play (*HS Auditorium*)

April 14

- 2:00 pm: High School Spring Play (*HS Auditorium*)

April 16

- 7:30 pm: High School Band Concert (*HS Auditorium*)

April 18

- 7:30 pm: District Jazz Festival (*HS Auditorium*)

April 22

- 4:00 pm-7:30 pm: Middle School & High School Parent Teacher Conferences

April 23

- 7:00 pm: Grade 6 Band/Orchestra Concert (*MS Auditorium*)

April 29

- 6:30 pm: Grade 5 Band/Orchestra Concert (*HS Auditorium*)

April 30

- 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm: Middle School Math & Literacy Night (*Middle School*)



Students at Lincoln Elementary work collaboratively on their unit math review.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

If families would like their child(ren) to attend BDUSD, but live in another school district, they can apply for open enrollment. Open enrollment, also known as School Choice, is Wisconsin's public school program which allows parents to apply for their children to attend school in a school district other than the one in which they live. Students in 5-Year Old Kindergarten through Grade 12 and who are Wisconsin residents may participate. Students in 4-year old kindergarten and Early Childhood may participate provided their resident district has a similar program and the child qualifies to participate in that program.

The Open Enrollment application period for the 2024-25 School Year is February 5 - April 30, 2024. Applications must be submitted by 4:00 pm on April 30, 2024. Late applications cannot be accepted. For more information or to apply, please visit <https://bit.ly/3sEzG1K>.

SUMMER SCHOOL 2024

June 10-July 25

(no classes July 1-5)

Registration and more information is available at <https://bit.ly/33IOGmO>.

We are hiring Summer School Teachers and Teacher Assistants. Please apply on WECAN at <https://wecan.waspa.org/>. Contact Katelyn Dwyer, Summer School Coordinator at (920)885-7380 x4302 or dwyerk@bdusd.org with any questions.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

Click [here](#) to check out Community Flyers on our website. It includes flyers for community activities and events such as youth athletic groups, dance programs, BD Library events, and much more!

BDACF EDUCATION FUND



Please consider supporting BDUSD staff and students by providing a gift to the Beaver Dam Unified School District Education Fund through the Beaver Dam Area Community Foundation.

Donations for the 2023-24 school year will be matched, up to \$5,000, by the Heffron Family Fund. Click [here](#) for more information about the Foundation and how to donate.

RESOURCES

FAMILY

- [Central Wisconsin Community Action Council](#)
- [Church Health Services](#)
- [Clothes for Kids](#)
- [Dodge County Food Pantry](#)
- [PAVE](#)
- [St. Vincent de Paul Society](#)

Visit bdusd.org for a full list of resources

MENTAL HEALTH

- [Affiliated Counseling Center LLC](#)
- [Alarus Healthcare LLC](#)
- [Church Health Services](#)
- [Dodge County Human Services and Health Dept.](#)
- [SSM Health Behavioral Health Services](#)

Visit bdusd.org for more resources



District
Jazz Festival
April 18
7:30 PM
BDHS Auditorium

BILINGUAL FAMILY SERVICES

Mrs. Ramsdale serves as the district's Bilingual Family Liaison and works to ensure that all of our students and families receive the support they need in our schools and in the community.

To learn more about our bilingual services please contact Mrs. Ramsdale at (920)885-7300 x1306 or ramsdaleb@bdusd.org or visit the district's ELL Resources webpage at <http://bit.ly/3UUMuxZ>.

Beaver Dam High School Drama Presents

still life with iris

By Steven Dietz

April 11 - 13, 2024 at 7:30
April 14, 2024 at 2:00
Beaver Dam High School Auditorium

Tickets Available
at
Fox Brother's Piggly Wiggly
or
At the Door

Adults \$8
Students and Seniors \$5

A fantastical, magical adventure centered around a young girl's search for home.



The Kennedy Center
Award Winning Play

WALK IN INTERVIEWS

1st Wednesday of the Month
8am-12pm

BDUSD DISTRICT OFFICE
400 E. Burnett St.
Beaver Dam, WI 53916

Join the BDUSD Team!




No appointment necessary
Stop at the Front Desk

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

SEND IN YOUR NOMINATION
WINNER RECEIVES \$300 FOR THEIR CLASSROOM

SPONSORED BY:
 American Bank

HEFFRON FAMILY FUND PART OF THE BEAVER DAM AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



TEACHER NAME HERE
SCHOOL NAME HERE

Nominate a local teacher to become the Teacher of the Month! Email or mail nominations:

Tom Heffron
bdtoyman@gmail.com
Mail:
112 Washington St.
Beaver Dam, WI 53916

Allyssa Gilmore
agilmore@americanbankbd.com
Mail:
American National Bank
Marketing Dept.
115 Front St
Beaver Dam, WI 53916



BEAVER DAM UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

WE ARE HIRING

APPLY ON WECAN:

- HIGH SCHOOL ART TEACHER
- HIGH SCHOOL DEAN OF STUDENTS
- HIGH SCHOOL MATH TEACHER
- MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH TEACHER
- SUBSTITUTES: CLERICAL, CUSTODIANS, TEACHING ASSISTANTS, TEACHERS
- ELEMENTARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER
- TEACHING ASSISTANTS
- MIDDLE SCHOOL TUTOR
- ATHLETIC COACHES





FACILITIES PLANNING

BEAVER DAM MIDDLE SCHOOL

As part of the BDUSD Facilities Plan, the District is exploring options for Middle School replacement.

- The current Middle School building is 100 years old with significant facility needs.
- The current Middle School site is significantly undersized and landlocked; it is in a dangerous location immediately adjacent to Business Hwy 151 (Spring Street) and just east of Hwy 33.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT OPTIONS:

- BASIC CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:
 - does not address instructional spaces or campus/site challenges
- COMPREHENSIVE RENOVATION:
 - does address instructional spaces, but does not improve the campus/site realities
- NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL:
 - address instructional spaces and campus/site challenge



WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

As part of the BDUSD Facilities Plan, the District is committed to a 3-section elementary school at Washington Elementary School with the addition of Wilson Elementary School students. Washington Elementary School was built in 1949 and is in need of renovation to extend its use for decades to come.

DISTRICT-WIDE IMPROVEMENTS

- Playground Improvements
- Drop-off / Pick-up Improvements
- Site Safety (Circulation + Fencing)
- Community Recreation
- ADA Access

DISTRICT FACILITIES PLANNING

- Supporting our next generation of students and teachers.
- Addressing urgent capital needs throughout our district.
- Identifying the best solution for our 100+ year-old Middle School.
- Investing in the future of Washington Elementary School, built in 1949.
- Improving site safety, accessibility, playgrounds, and community spaces throughout our district.

STAY INFORMED



#BDFam



For more Information, contact:
Superintendent, Mark DiStefano, distefanom@bdusd.org



www.bdusd.org